

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 11538 161604Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 SSC-01 /058 W  
-----054105 161824Z /45

R 161255Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5437  
INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY KABUL  
/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 121  
AMCONSUL BOMBAY  
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA  
AMCONSUL MADRAS  
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT PGOV IN  
SUBJECT: ALLOCATION OF PORTFOLIOS AMONG NEW MINISTERS OF STATE

REF: NEW DELHI 11428

1. THE GOI ANNOUNCED ON AUGUST 12 THE DISTRIBUTION  
OF MINISTERIAL PORTFOLIOS AMONG THE 24 NEW MINISTERS  
OF STATE APPOINTED THE PREVIOUS EVENING (REFTEL). ALL  
EXCEPT ONE WILL SERVE AS DEPUTIES TO FULL CABINET RANK  
MINISTERS AND HENCE WILL BE ABLE TO EASE THE HEAVY  
WORKLOAD OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND PARLIAMENTARY RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER WHICH THE CABINET MEMBERS HAVE BEEN  
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PAGE 02 NEW DE 11538 161604Z

OPERATING FOR THE PAST FOUR AND A HALF MONTHS. CONTRARY  
TO EARLIER SPECULATION, PRIME MINISTER DESAI DID NOT  
REDISTRIBUTE PORTFOLIOS AMONG HIS SENIOR MINISTERS,  
AN ACT OF OMISSION WHICH SOME NEWSPAPER EDITORIALS  
HAVE INTERPRETED AS A SIGN OF UNWILLINGNESS TO  
ANTAGONIZE THE ERSTWHILE CONSTITUENT PARTS OF THE JANATA.

2. AN EVALUATION OF THE FORMER PARTY AFFILIATIONS OF THE NEW MINISTERS OF STATE SUGGEST THAT THE PM CAREFULLY TOOK INTO ACCOUNT THE RELATIVE STRENGTH IN THE LOK SABHA OF THE JANATA'S COMPONENT PARTS. AS THE LARGEST SINGLE CONTINGENT (APPROXIMATELY 90 MPS) THE JANA SANGH RECEIVED EIGHT OF THE NEW MINISTERSHIPS. THE NEXT LARGEST GROUP, THE BLD (ABOUT 70 MPS) PICKED UP SEVEN POSITIONS, WHILE THE THIRD-RANKING CONTINGENT, CONGRESS (O) (JUST OVER 50 MP'S) RECEIVED FOUR MINISTERSHIPS. SOCIALISTS RECEIVED TWO, CFD ONE, AND A CONGRESS REBEL ONE. MOST OF THE NEW MINISTERS OF STATE ARE RELATIVELY UNKNOWN AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. MANY HAVE NOT EVEN SERVED IN MINISTERIAL POSTS IN THE STATE GOVERNMENTS AND HENCE THERE MAY BE A LENGTHY BREAKING IN PERIOD AS THEY SET ABOUT TAKING UP THEIR NEW RESPONSIBILITIES.

3. THE NAMES OF THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE PM'S GOVERNMENT, THEIR ASSIGNED PORTFOLIOS, HOME STATES AND FORMER PARTY AFFILIATIONS ARE GIVEN BELOW:

CHAND RAM: SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), A HARIJAN FROM HARYANA, FORMER BLD.

SATISH CHANDRA AGARWAL: FINANCE (UNDER H. M. PATEL), FROM RAJASTHAN AND, FORMERLY JANA SANGH.

MRS. RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (UNDER P.C. CHUNDER), FROM ASSAM. FORMERLY CONGRESS(O).

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PAGE 03 NEW DE 11538 161604Z

ARIF BEG: COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (UNDER MOHAN DHARIA), A MUSLIM FROM MADHY PRADESH, FORMERLY JANA SANGH.

K.K. GOYAL: COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (UNDER MOHAN DHARIA), FROM RAJASTHAN, FORMERLY JANA SANGH.

DHANNA SINGH GULSHAN: EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (UNDER P.C. CHUNDER), A SCHEDULED CASTE SIKH FROM PUNJAB AND A MEMBER OF THE AKALI DAL.

RAM KINKAR: WORKS AND HOUSING, AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (UNDER SIKANDAR BAKHT), A SCHEDULED CASTE MP FROM UP, FORMERLY BLD.

SAMARENDRA KUNDU: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (UNDER A.B. VAJPAYEE), FROM ORISSA, FORMERLY SOCIALIST PARTY.

MISS ABHA MAITI: INDUSTRY (UNDER GEORGE FERNANDES), FROM WEST BENGAL, FORMERLY CONGRESS (O).

DHANIK LAL MANDAL: HOME AFFAIRS (UNDER CHARAN SINGH), FROM BIHAR, FORMERLY SOCIALIST PARTY.

JANSHWAR MISHRA: PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (UNDER H. N. BAHUGUNA), FROM UP, FORMERLY BLD.

KARIA MUNDA: STEEL AND MINES (UNDER BIJU PATNAIK), A SCHEDULED TRIBE MP FROM BIHAR, FORMERLY JANA SANGH.

S.D. PATIL: HOME AFFAIRS (UNDER CHARAN SINGH),

FROM MAHARASHTRA, FORMERLY CONGRESS (O).  
FAZLUR REHMAN: ENERGY (UNDER P. RAMACHANDRAN),  
A MUSLIM FROM BIHAR, FORMERLY CFD.  
LARANG SAI: LABOR AND PARTLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (UNDER  
RAVINDRA VARMA), A SCHEDULED TRIBE MP FROM MADYA  
PRADESH, FORMERLY JANA SANGH.  
NARAHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI: COMMUNICATIONS (UNDER  
BRIJLAL VERMA), A SCHEDULED TRIBE MP FROM MADHYA PRADESH,  
FROMERLY JANA SANGH.  
SHEO NARAIN: RAILWQAYS (UNDER MADHU DANDAVATE),  
A SCHEDULED CASTE MP FROM UP, FORMERLY CONGRESS (O).  
PROFESSOR SHER SINGH:DEFENSE (UNDER JAGJIVAN RAM), A  
REBEL CONGRESSMAN FROM HARYANA.  
BHANU PRATAP SINGH; AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION  
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PAGE 04 NEW DE 11538 161604Z

(UNDER S.S. BANNALA), FROM UP FORMERLY BLD.  
JAGBIR SINGH: INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (UNDER  
L.K. ADVANI), FROM UP, FORMERLY BLD.  
DR. RAMKRIPAL SINHA; LABOR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS  
(UNDER RAVINDRA VARMA), FROM BIHAR, FORMERLY JANA SANGH.  
JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
(UNDER RAJ NARAIN), FROM BIHAR, FORMERLY JANA SANGH.  
NARSINGH YADAV: LAW, JUSTICE ADN COMPANY AFFAIRS  
(UNDER SHANTI BHUSHAN), FROM UP FORMERLY BLD.  
ZULFIQUARULLA: FINANCE (UNDER H. M. PATEL), A MUSLIM  
FROM UP, FORMERLY BLD.  
GOHEEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CABINET, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS  
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**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ALLOCATION OF PORTFOLIOS AMONG NEW MINISTERS OF STATE  
**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, IN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
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